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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**INFORMATION REPORT**

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1. The strength of the paramilitary police (Bereitschaften) is currently estimated at 53,000, which represents an increase of 6,000 since the beginning of the recruiting drive. The total combined strength of regular and militarized police forces in East Germany is estimated at less than 150,000.
2. A decision of the East German cabinet on 20 May 1952 made the Minister of Construction responsible for finding quarters for 200,000 "Vopos"\* before the end of 1952.
3. Border controls between East and West Berlin, and between West Berlin and the Russian zone, have been somewhat relaxed. The Deutscher Personalausweis is the only document required for travel. Women and children are not being checked at the control points, nor are other controls noted, except that on the Berlin subway and S-Bahn briefcases are being checked in the eastern sector.

\* ☐ Comment: The term "Vopo" is ambiguous in colloquial German usage, but would appear to mean the paramilitary police in this instance.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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